

Repression and genocide of this magnitude at the hands of the Indian government is unparalleled in the late part of the 20th century. India should be ashamed of the genocide it has committed against Sikhs, Christians, Muslims, and other minorities. Khalsa Ji, at this time of Vaisakhi, the whole Khalsa Panth must be energized to reestablish a sovereign, independent Khalsa Raj by freeing our homeland, Khalistan.

India is not one nation. It is a polyglot empire thrown together under one roof for the administrative convenience of the British colonialists. It has 18 official languages. History shows that such countries are doomed to fall apart. India will collapse just like the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Soviet Union, and other multinational states such as Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. The cracks are appearing and India is crumbling. The clock is ticking. The Kashmir issue has been internationalized. The United States is now involved in the issue. On December 5, President Bush told me "I am aware of the Sikh and Kashmiri problem." There will be a referendum in Kashmir under international supervision. Kashmir will either be independent or become part of Pakistan. It will not remain within India. As L.K. Advani predicted, "When Kashmir goes, India goes." This time we agree with Mr. Advani. Kashmir will go and India will disintegrate.

Khalsa Ji, bring back your Khalsa spirit. Look at Advani having a yatra of India and coming to Amritsar. Punjab belongs to the Khalsa Panth, not to India. He has no right to show Hindu dominance in Punjab. Shame on the Akali leaders like Badal, Tohra, and others who have joined hands with the BJP, which is the political arm of the RSS. We need a new Sikh political party which has a dedication to the interests of the Sikh Nation as its sole objective, to establish Khalsa Raj by liberating Khalistan, severing all political ties with India. If the BJP wants Hindu Raj, it cannot object to Khalsa Raj.

The Sikhs in Punjab have suffered enormous repression at the hands of the Indian regime in the last 20 years. The Indian government wants to break the will of the Sikh Nation and enslave them forever, making Sikhism a part of Hinduism. This can only be stopped if we free Punjab from Delhi's control and reestablish a sovereign, independent country, as declared on October 7, 1957. Then Punjab will be a member of the United Nations and we will have Ambassadors in almost 200 countries.

Khalsa Ji, remember that a free Khalistan will bring economic prosperity to Punjab farmers. They will be able to sell their produce internationally which will fetch them much higher prices than they are getting now from the Indian government. The Indian government fixes prices of produce so low that farmers get deeper and deeper in debt while they sell fertilizer, seeds, and insecticides to the farmers at artificially high prices. The Indian government has diverted Punjab river water to neighboring states without any compensation to Punjab. Punjab farmers are forced to pump subsoil water for irrigation. This is expensive and brings salinity to soil, which lowers the crop production.

Remember, 3 million (30 lakh) Sikhs live outside India. The outside Sikhs are free, prosperous, well educated, professional, and committed to establishing an independent, sovereign Khalistan. The Indian government does not have any control over the Sikh diaspora. Outside Sikhs have exposed the atrocities committed on the Sikhs by the Indian government. Outside Sikhs have also preserved the true history of the Sikhs since 1984 by documenting every incident in the U.S. Congressional Record while the Indian government tries to alter Sikh history. Out-

side Sikhs are committed to a continuing effort to free Khalistan. Remember the words of Professor Darshan Singh, former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, during the celebration of Guru Nanak's birthday: "If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh." He was only reiterating the Guru's blessing, "In Grief Sikhin Ko Deon Patshahi." The time to achieve our independence is now.

Khalsa Ji, remain in Charhdi Kala. Always remember our heritage: Raj Kare Ga Khalsa; Khalsa Bagi Yan Badshah. Freedom for Khalistan is very close.

#### RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT FRANCIS R. BASON

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 25, 2004*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Francis R. Bason for his 14 years of service with the Montgomery County, Pennsylvania District Attorney's Detective Bureau.

Lieutenant Francis Bason has been employed by Montgomery County since July 9, 1990 as Supervisor of the Narcotics Enforcement Team. He has served a total of 42 years in law enforcement; 14 with Montgomery County and 28 years with the Pennsylvania State Police.

In 1958, Francis Bason began his proud service in the United States Army Dental Corps before being honorably discharged in 1961. He returned to Pennsylvania and started his career in law enforcement as a traffic officer. In 1965, he became part of the State Police's Criminal Intelligence Unit, Youth Aid Division, headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1971, Frank was promoted to Corporal and assigned to the Patrol Division that he ultimately supervised. That same year, he became the Pennsylvania State Police's, Drug Law Enforcement Division Regional Supervisor where he was the director of undercover operations for a six-county area in South-eastern Pennsylvania.

During his years with the Pennsylvania State Police, Francis Bason continued his education and, in 1977, graduated magna cum laude from West Chester State University with a bachelor of science degree. Two years later, he received his master in science degree from West Chester as well.

In 1990, Frank became a Narcotics Enforcement Detective for the Montgomery County District Attorney's office, in March of 1993, he was promoted to Detective-In-Charge of the Narcotics Enforcement Team. One year later, he was promoted to Lieutenant.

Over the years, Lieutenant Francis Bason has been recognized by his peers, both locally and nationally, for his tremendous achievements in law enforcement. In 1982, he received the Award for Exceptional Service from the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration. In 1988, he was recognized as the Outstanding Police Officer of the Year by the Pennsylvania State Police and, one year later, received the Pennsylvania State Police Commendation Medal. His tremendous knowledge and experience was also recognized by the United States Congress in 1980 when he was asked to testify before the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control on various drug-trafficking and law enforcement issues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Lieutenant Francis R. Bason for his many years of exemplary service to his community, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and our nation.

#### CONGRATULATING WILMINGTON COLLEGE LADY QUAKERS BASKETBALL TEAM

**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 25, 2004*

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today congratulations are in order for the Wilmington (OH) College Lady Quakers Basketball team. Last Saturday, March 20, 2004, the Lady Quakers won the NCAA Division III national championship by defeating the previously unbeaten, and top-ranked, Bowdoin College Lady Polar Bears, 59-53.

Special congratulations to the Lady Quakers' Tara Rausch who was selected Final Four MVP as well as first team All-American; Amy Kincer who was named to the all-tournament team; and Wilmington head coach, Jerry Scheve, on the team's 27-6, championship season.

The Wilmington College Lady Quakers' NCAA Division III 2004 national basketball championship is a testament to the team's commitment to excellence, upholding the best traditions of this country's true scholar-athletes.

I ask my colleagues as well as all citizens of the Ohio Valley to join me in congratulating the faculty, staff, parents and friends of Wilmington College on completing an exciting and memorable championship season.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHNNETTA COLE

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 25, 2004*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Johnnetta Cole for her many accomplishments in higher education and leadership in her community.

Dr. Johnnetta Cole is the President of Bennett College, a Historically Black Women's College in Greensboro, North Carolina. She is also a Professor Emerita at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, and was the first female President of Spelman College, also in Atlanta, Georgia.

In addition, Dr. Cole served her Nation proudly in 1992 when President-elect Bill Clinton appointed her as his transition coordinator for education, arts, labor, and humanities.

Mr. Speaker, on March 28th, Dr. Cole will be the Keynote Speaker at the Founders' Day program for the Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. I rise today to welcome her to North Alabama and to honor her achievements in advancing higher education throughout our country.